



The Walter F. Snyder Award for 1987

Presented to

GEORGE ALLAN KUPFER

George Kupfer is the consummate Environmental Health Professional, a person each of us in this profession can look to with pride.

Those qualities that make George Kupfer a most worthy and deserving recipient of the 1987 Walter F. Snyder award are the very ones for which this recognition was established: leadership, contributions to both public health and the community, volunteer efforts, knowledge, problem solving, meaningful contributions to one's profession, and the knowledge of and commitment to utilization of voluntary standards.

In September 1956, George came to the Department of Health in Milwaukee with his degree in Biological Science from The University of Wisconsin. There he joined a group that was to become the

present and renowned Bureau of Consumer Protection and Environmental Health. His work as a staff member, and then as a burgeoning administrator, covered all of the basic duties of the sanitarian. They also included public health field engineering, innovative labors in air and water pollution, pest control and solid waste control — plus the responsibilities for weights and measures. By 1966, it became evident that George Kupfer's knowledge of metropolitan environmental science was being outpaced by the scourges of modern day living. Facing up to the challenge, he studied at the Kettering Institute of The University of Cincinnati, where he earned a master's degree in Environmental Health. Shortly after his return to the Milwaukee Health

Department, he assumed his present position as Director of the Bureau of Consumer Protection and Environmental Health.

A remarkable number of programs, developed under the leadership of George Kupfer, has been adopted by other municipal, state, and national agencies. The housing code of the American Public Health Association originated in Milwaukee. So, too, did the rodent control and nuisance noise programs of that Wisconsin metropolis.

The *Environment News Digest* observed in 1978 that environmental programs within Milwaukee's governmental structure had been granted an exceptional measure of independence. Such a degree of autonomy is rare in other cities, and the *Digest* decided that the phenomenon in Milwaukee could be attributed only to Kupfer's skillful advocacy of the implications of environmental health.

Today our 1987 honoree is Chairman of the Wisconsin Association of Local Health Administrators. In 1983-1984 he was President of the Wisconsin Environmental Health Association. Among numerous National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) appointments during the past decade has been Chairman of the General Environmental Health Section. He was recently elected Second Vice President.

Since 1980 he has worked hard as a member of the NSF Council of Public Health Consultants and has chaired its local agency group. He

has also chaired the very important Joint Committee on Food Service Equipment Standards since 1983.

From 1973 to the present he has served on eight major boards, councils, and sections of the American Public Health Association. He has also filled dozens of key appointments to municipal, county, state, and regional bodies in need of his expertise.

By means of professional publications, he is able to multiply his efforts by thousands of printed impressions. His writings have embraced such topics as carbon monoxide, measurement of nuisance noises, air pollution and human lung cancer, swimming pool disinfectants and adverse effects of pollution on Lake Michigan. In 1986 he received the A. Harry Bliss Editorial Award from NEHA for his contribution to the professional stature of the *Journal* and its usefulness to readers.

Yet, somehow, with all of these concurrent concerns and activities he has been a devoted family man, a active sportsman; and a leader in the Boy Scouts, the PTA, and his church.

George A. Kupfer is an outstanding individual and a quality professional. He is a tireless worker, skillful in communications, and a strong and effective spokesperson for his beliefs and principles. His integrity and professionalism are well known and recognized by all who know him. He is richly deserving of the honor bestowed upon him by a committee of his peer to receive the 1987 Walter F. Snyder Award.

Past Recipients of the Walter F. Snyder Award

Callis F. Atkins
Ralph C. Pickard
William A. Broadway, Jr.
James E. Jump
Charles L. Senn

Charles C. Johnson, Jr.
Larry J. Gordon
Ray B. Watts
John G. Todd
Charles H. Gillham

Emil T. Chanlett
John R. Bagby, Jr.
William Anderson
William G. Walter
Albert H. Brunwasser

